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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6950
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES PRIORITY
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 0046
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0137

CONFIDENTIAL DUBLIN 000566

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/22/2016 TAGS: <u>PGOV PREL PHUM SY EI</u>

SUBJECT: IRELAND IN LINE WITH EU PRESIDENCY STATEMENT

REGARDING RECENT ARRESTS IN SYRIA

**REF: A. STATE 77093** 

¶B. DUBLIN 00293

Classified By: Political-Economic Counselor Mary E. Daly; Reasons 1.4 (B) and (D).

(C) On May 19, emboff delivered reftel points to Department of Foreign Affairs Human Rights Section Deputy Director Gavan O'Leary. O'Leary stated that Ireland agrees with the USG points on the Syrian regime's repression of civil society and human rights activists, but lacking representation in Damascus, the GOI will defer to the recent declaration by the EU presidency regarding the arrests in Syria to address the matter on Ireland's behalf. Kenny